



# VENTURA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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June 27, 2019

Email: [42365-69609834@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:42365-69609834@requests.muckrock.com)

Muckrock News  
DEPT MR 42365  
411A Highland Ave.  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Re: PRA for Citizen Complaints and Use of Forces between 2009 and 2019

Alexander Cartwright and Jennifer Dirmeyer,

The Ventura County Sheriff's Office received your public records request dated June 24, 2019; the request referenced for August 22, 2017 was never received. As noted in your June 24, 2019 request the initial email used [police@toaks.org](mailto:police@toaks.org) is tagged as "error". Please update your system with valid correspondence information.

The City of Thousand Oaks contracts with the Ventura County Sheriff's Office for police services. The responsive information is for the entire jurisdiction of the Ventura County Sheriff's Office. The jurisdiction includes the cities of Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, and Thousand Oaks, and the unincorporated areas of Ventura County. Your June 24, 2019 requests along with our responses are listed below:

1. What is the total number of citizen complaints (allegations of misconduct) made against your department's officers annually for the last 10 years? If your department logs complaints in a database, spreadsheet, or other log, a copy of those logs is fine instead.

Please include the type of complaint (i.e., use of force, abuse language, unwarranted search) and the result of complaint (i.e., sustained, exonerated).

*The retention schedule for citizen complaints and investigations is five years. Below are responsive records for years available. Complaint allegation information for the year 2016 is not electronically retrievable.*

# **TOTAL NUMBER OF CITIZEN COMPLAINTS PER YEAR**

2014	128
2015	169
2016	150
2017	193
2018	150

## **2014 COMPLAINTS BY ALLEGATION    2015 COMPLAINTS BY ALLEGATION**

Allegation	TOTAL
Criminal Conduct	9
Conduct Unbecoming	20
Deception	9
Discourteous Treatment	37
Failure to Report	2
False Arrest	1
False Report	3
Harassment – Citizen	4
Harassment – Sexual	2
Illegal Detention	4
Insubordination	2
Neglect of Duty	18
Other	2
Racial Profiling	1
Theft	2
Timecard Violation	2
Use of Force	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>128</b>


Allegation	TOTAL
Civil Rights Violation	1
Conduct Unbecoming	33
Criminal Conduct	12
Dishonesty	7
Discourteous Treatment	38
False Arrest	5
Fraternization	3
Harassment – Citizen	2
Harassment - Employee	3
Illegal Search	4
Inaccurate Report	2
Insubordination	3
Misuse of Overtime	1
Neglect of Duty	26
Officer Involved Shooting	2
Other	1
Perjury	1
Pursuit Resulting in Death	1
Policy Violation	1
Release of Confidential Info	2
Sexual Misconduct	1
Threats	1
Theft	4
Use of Force	15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>169</b>

## 2017 COMPLAINTS BY ALLEGATION      2018 COMPLAINTS BY ALLEGATION

Allegations	TOTAL
Civil Rights Violation	2
CLETS Misuse	3
Conduct Unbecoming	31
Criminal Conduct	8
Discrimination	7
Dishonesty	3
Discourteous Treatment	42
Entrapment	1
Failure to Report	1
False Arrest	9
False/Inaccurate Report	3
Fraternization	1
Harassment – Citizen	6
Illegal Detention	7
Illegal Entry	5
Illegal Search/Seizure	9
Insubordination	1
Neglect of Duty	29
Officer Involved Shooting	1
Other	1
Policy Violation	1
Racial Profiling	1
Retaliation	1
Release of Confidential Info	3
Threats	1
Use of Force	16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>193</b>

Allegations	TOTAL
Biased Policing - Age	1
Biased Policing -Gender	2
Biased Policing – Mental Disability	1
Biased Policing – National Origin	3
Biased Policing – Physical Disability	1
Biased Policing - Race	10
Conduct Unbecoming	16
Criminal Conduct	4
Dishonesty	1
Discourteous Treatment	30
Failure to Report	1
False Arrest	13
False/Inaccurate Report	6
Harassment – Citizen	16
Harassment – Employee	1
Illegal Detention	1
Illegal Entry	2
Illegal Search/Seizure	4
Improper Tow	2
Neglect of Duty	24
Officer Involved Shooting	4
Release of Records	1
Sexual Misconduct	1
Use of Force	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150</b>

2. What is the total number of complaints police officers made against their peer officers in department annually for the last 10 years? If your department logs complaints in a database, spreadsheet, or other log, a copy of those logs is fine instead.

Please include the type of complaint (i.e., use of force, abusive language, unwarranted search) and the result of complaint (i.e., sustained, exonerated).

*The Ventura County Sheriff's Office has no responsive records for item #2.*

3. How many officer-involved-shootings were there per year for the last 10 years in your department? Any documentation or reports that detail the annual number of officer-involved shootings in your department for the past 10 years would be sufficient.

Please include documentation regarding how many of these officer-involved shootings involved disciplinary action. (Please list officer firearm discharge directed at a person separately from a shooting involving an animal and separately from accidental firearm discharges).

Please include the number of officer-involved shootings resulting in discipline.

#### OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING BY YEAR

2014 0  
2015 1  
2016 0  
2017 1  
2018 3

*None of the officer involved shootings resulted in a sustained disciplinary finding.*

4. Which of the above data are published publicly? Please provide a link to any and all publicly available reports containing the data above.

*Pursuant to Government Code section 12525.2, effective January 1, 2016, all law enforcement agencies were required to begin collecting data on use of force incidents that resulted in serious bodily injury or death or involved the discharge of a firearm. They were to be reported annually for submittal to the Department of Justice beginning January 1, 2017, this database is URSUS. The following link is to URSUS, where this data is collected: <https://openjustice.doj.ca.gov/data>.*

The County of Ventura Ordinance 4339 allows for cost recovery related to public records request which use more than two hours of staff time. The initial two, free hours have been consumed in researching, collating, and crafting this response. The cost recovery hourly rate is \$24.00. We estimate 8 hours of staff time will be needed to review, confirm, and break down by allegation the complaints for 2016. Estimated fees are \$192.00.

If you would like to move forward with the pending item please send payment to Ventura County Sheriff's Office, 800 S. Victoria Avenue, L#3310- Records, Ventura, CA 93009. This response was researched by Captain Laughlin- Sheriff Internal Affairs, and crafted by S. Spiropoulos, Office Assistant- Sheriff's Records.

Regards,



Selena Spiropoulos, Office Assistant- Sheriff's Records